



Reconstruction of Mill River Baseball Fields

Youth Baseball in Amherst

- Amherst Youth Baseball founded 1952
- Led by Stan Ziomek for 60 years
- One of the first Little Leagues to welcome girls
- Mill River constructed in 1970's
- Still prioritizing in-town play
- No separating recreational and travel teams
- Lowest cost youth sport in Amherst



Amherst Baseball Inc.

- Founded 2012
- A Mass 501c3 non-profit
- 21 member board of directors



Amherst Baseball Inc. financial expenditures

- \$3,500 new professional lawn mower
- \$3,000 used sand-pro infield groomer
- \$1,000 trailer for equipment
- \$3,000 Kiwanis Field infield soil
- \$1,400 Ziomek Field infield soil
- \$500 field supplies

Amherst Baseball Inc

donations of labor

- Construction of new field at Kiwanis Park
- Regular maintenance of Mill River, Kiwanis
- Reconstruction of Middle School Field to original dimensions
- In-season maintenance of Middle School Field
- In-season maintenance of Ziomek Field (with DPW)
- Emergency repair to Ziomek, Fall 2013 (with DPW)
- In-season Mill River field prep, 3-4 times per week per field
- In-season Mill River weekly mowing
- In-season Mill River, MS, Ziomek water removal

Building Kiwanis Field



Volunteer Labor and Equip.



A new field at no cost to the town



The batting cages

- Too narrow for safe swinging
- Chain link construction causes wild caroms
- Dangerous for batters
- More dangerous for coach pitchers



Mill River baseball infields

- Infield degradation: soils in places 3-4" lower than grass surface
- Impacted soils create rock-hard surface
- Lack of proper drainage causes prolonged flooding after rains.
- Undulated grass surface is uneven
- Pitching mounds badly degraded, one is misaligned.

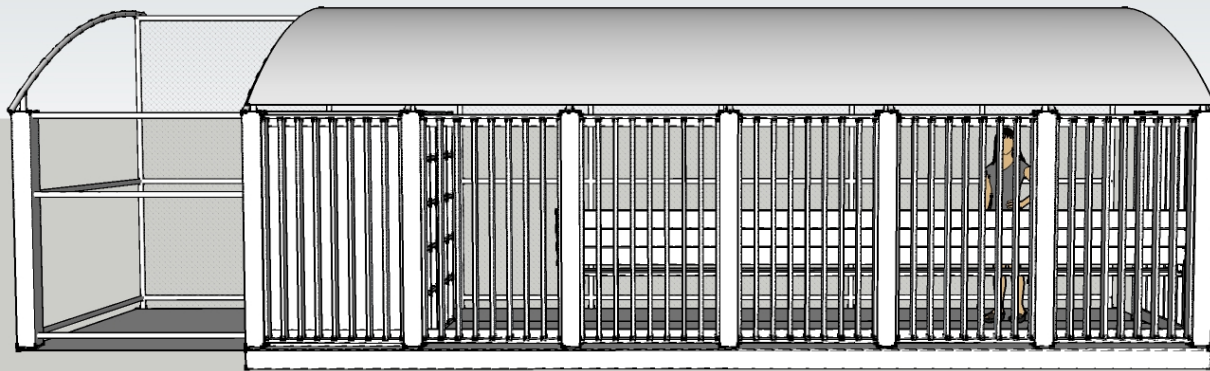
Chronic Drainage Issues



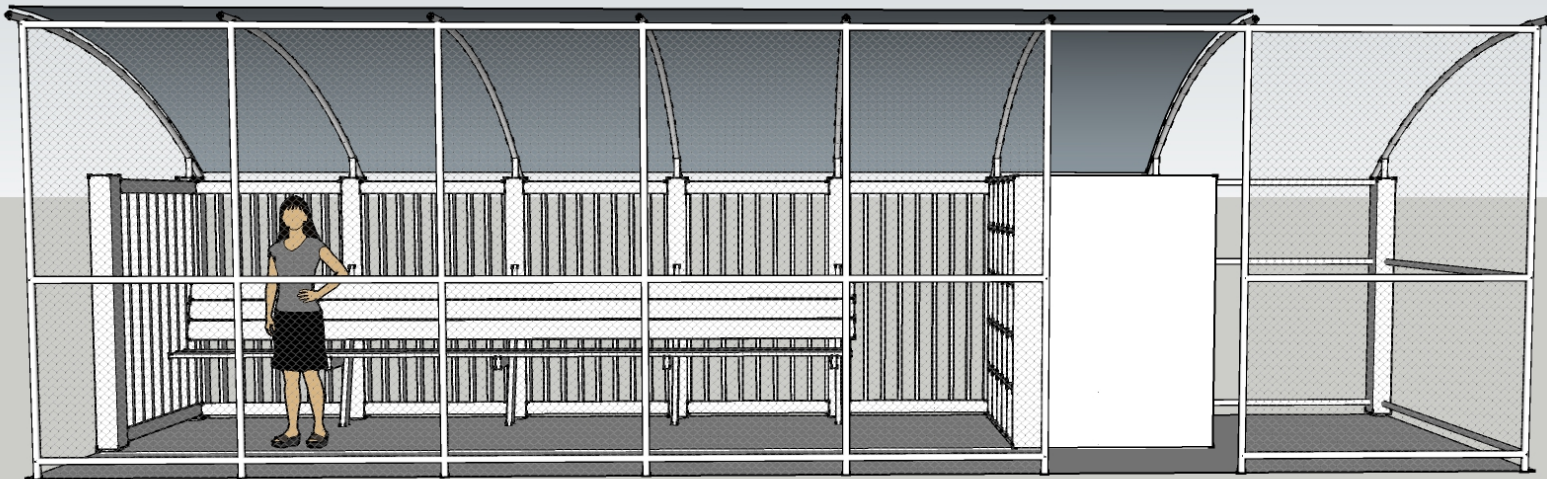
Dugouts

- No respite from sun in increasingly hotter summers
- No place for safe, convenient storage of equipment
- Lack of a basic amenity of a youth baseball field
- Easier for coaches, builds team comraderie

Dugout Rear



Dugout Front



Water

- Proper long-term maintenance of infield soils requires regular, in-season hosing of surface
- No water access for players in increasingly hot summer weather. Current water access is 100+ yards from fields.

Electricity

- A wired field #2 allows for a P.A. system for possible tournament play.
- Serves special functions
- Electric service currently served by long extension cords, not a safe practice

The urgency

- Mill River fields are among the worst Little League fields in the Pioneer Valley
- Proper maintenance over the years has been minimal.
- Some original engineering was flawed
- Current problems have created unsafe conditions.
- Condition is not worthy of the Town of Amherst

Are you asking for gold-plated baseball fields?

- No! We ask for baseball fields at a *minimal* level of playability and safety
- Dugout design has been donated with cost as the top priority
- DPW cannot complete such complex engineering and construction.

Who will ensure the longevity of CPAC's investment?

- Maintenance of your investment in Mill River will be supervised by Amherst Baseball Inc. utilizing the volunteer labor of its board of directors, coaches, parents, and the boys and girls who will benefit from your generosity.

